Survey data documenting alcohol use among aboriginals available through First Nations Centre 2005

Compared to the general population, the Aboriginal population has a higher percentage of

abstainers (34 vs. 21%)

there’s a lesser portion of daily/regular drinkers and a

greater portion of binge drinkers.

Aboriginal drinkers are less than half as likely to consume alcohol on a weekly/daily basis (18 vs. 44%), but more than twice as likely to binge drink once or more per week (16 vs. 6%)

Aboriginal male drinkers are twice as likely to binge drink on a weekly basis as their female counterparts

(21 vs. 10%).

Data from a report released by the Provincial Health Officer of BC (British Columbia,

Provincial Health Officer 2002) indicate that the aforementioned levels and patterns of

drinking are associated with a high burden of disease within the Aboriginal population.

There is a high rate of alcohol-related deaths and hospitalisations compared to the general

population, and alcohol is considered a contributing factor in almost 40% of accidental and

violent Aboriginal deaths.

During the last decade of the 20th century, 38% of registered

status Aboriginal deaths in BC were related to alcohol use while the comparable value

was 16% for other BC residents.

Anderson, J. F. (2007). Screening and brief intervention for hazardous alcohol use within Indigenous populations: Potential solution or impossible dream?. *Addiction Research & Theory*, *15*(5), 439-448. doi:10.1080/16066350701219210